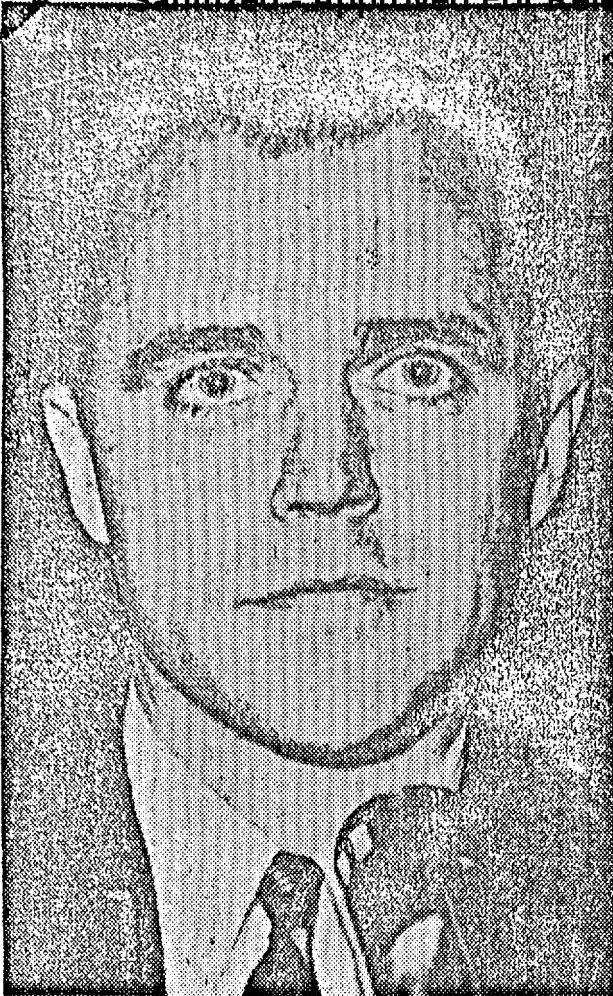


JUN 24 1968

WASHINGTON STAR
Sanitized - Approved For Release - CIA-RDP75-00149

-Associated Press

MICHAEL V. O'HARE
On the Stand

Former Aide Blames One of Senator's Sons

Charge Follows
Stennis Warning
On Intimidation

By ROBERT WALTERS
Star Staff Writer

Michael V. O'Hare, a former employe of Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, charged today that one of Dodd's sons threatened him as the result of testimony O'Hare gave before the Senate Ethics Committee.

O'Hare made the charge outside the committee hearing room after Sen. John C. Stennis, chairman of the committee, said he had received "reports about the possibility of some threats" to witnesses.

The committee is investigating charges of misconduct against Dodd.

O'Hare said he was approached in the hallway of the new Senate Office Building early today by a young man who said: "We won't forget you for this. We'll pursue you to your grave."

Members of the six-man committee said they had been told of an incident, but gave conflicting accounts as to when it was reported to have occurred. Several committee members, however, said it apparently occurred before the committee convened this morning.

O'Hare, Dodd's office manager until he resigned last January, was the last committee witness to testify against Dodd. He was on the witness stand late yesterday afternoon and again early this morning.

O'Hare's Statement

O'Hare said he was certain the individual who made the threat was one of Dodd's four sons. O'Hare said he was not sure which one it was.

When reporters asked the



-United Press International

Helen Batherson, former "Girl Friday" for Julius Klein, adds a touch of laughter with her testimony in the Dodd hearing yesterday.

senator's sons about O'Hare's account, one of them asked "How did you find out about it?" Told that O'Hare had made the complaint, he said "We have a policy of not talking to the press."

Dodd's four sons are Thomas Jr., 31; Jeremy, 27; Christopher, 22, and Nicholas, 18.

Jeremy and Christopher were present during today's hearings.

Several members of the Ethics Committee confirmed that O'Hare had complained to committee staff members of the threat.

Stennis Announcement

Stennis, in making his announcement, declined to identify the complainant and said he was "not referring to anything in particular."

Stennis made his announcement before a packed hearing room as the committee concluded its morning session shortly after noon. He said:

"Reports came in this morning about the possibility of some threats in reference to some of the witnesses in this hearing. I am not referring to anything in particular but it should be pointed out that the status of a witness is before the committee."

"They are here under command of the law. They are wards of the Senate. We are agents of the Senate and to that extent the law gives them protection."

tection.

"We cannot have witnesses threatened, coerced or intimidated. I am just referring to the general situation. I am not referring to anything in particular, or passing judgment on it."

Reads U.S. Law

Stennis then read the portion of the U.S. Code which sets a maximum penalty of a \$5,000 fine, five years in prison or both for any individual convicted of attempting to influence or intimidate a witness before any congressional committee.

"This is a serious matter from any viewpoint. I hope that this is the last time I will have to mention it," Stennis said.

Earlier, Dodd opened his defense against a charge that he helped Julius Klein, a foreign-business agent.

Dodd's principal attorney, John F. Sonnett, called as his first witness Charles J. Kersten, a Milwaukee attorney, who was elected to the House as a Republican in the 80th, 82d and 83d Congresses. Kersten's testimony was aimed at showing that the '64 trip was not for Klein.

Four other witnesses, including Dodd himself, are scheduled to testify in the senator's defense before the Ethics Committee.

O'Hare's Testimony

Immediately prior to Kersten's appearance, O'Hare testified

that morale in Dodd's office was so low in 1965 that there was a staff turnover of "well over 100 percent."

"There was a general deterioration. Morale was very low. People who I thought were very capable and who were with us for years became discouraged and left," said O'Hare, who was Dodd's office manager until he resigned last January.

"I Can't Say"

Under questioning by Sonnett, O'Hare acknowledged that more than the four former Dodd staff members previously named in the hearings were involved in removing allegedly incriminating documents from Dodd's office and copying them.

When Sonnett asked O'Hare to name them, the young witness said "I can't say."

"You mean you can't, or you won't," said Sonnett.

"I won't. It would subject them to harassment," O'Hare said.

The committee then ruled that the question need not be answered at the time and the subject was dropped.

Kersten said he had urged Dodd to hold hearings on the case of B. N. Stashinsky, a Soviet spy who defected to West Germany. Dodd has argued that his trip to Germany laid the groundwork for such hearings—not to assist Klein a public foreign agent for West German business interests.

"I urged him (Dodd) to have hearings in order that the American people might know more about it," Kersten said.

Sought CIA Role

Kersten also said that he urged Dodd to approach the Central Intelligence Agency to help gain publicity for the case.

"Anything you might do through the CIA, Tom, to aid in the publicizing of this trial will be most appreciated," said an October 1962 memo from Kersten to Dodd introduced into the record.

Asked to explain the reference to the CIA, Kersten told the committee:

"I thought the CIA, having worldwide information, could prevent the sabotaging of proper and natural publicity of this important trial. I thought he might make some contact in that respect with some member of the CIA."

The committee was told, yes.

terday that a Dodd aide "warned the senator many times about the relationship" between himself and Klein.

Miss Terry Golden, a former secretary in Dodd's office, said David Martin, one of the senator's assistants, told Dodd his friendship with Klein "would cause a lot of trouble (but) the senator just refused to listen and he just expressed great concern."

Miss Golden said the warning was recounted to her by Martin just before or shortly after Dodd made the trip to Germany in April 1964.

Documents introduced during the first two days of committee hearings indicated that Klein requested Dodd to go to Germany to bolster Klein's image and help him retain several public relations clients.

Klein's letters showed that he believed he was in danger of losing the accounts because of unfavorable publicity which stemmed from a 1963 Senate Foreign Relations Committee investigation of his activities.

Klein "Very Persuasive"

The former manager of Klein's Washington office testified that Klein "called Dodd on innumerable occasions to ask him to intervene in his (Klein's) behalf . . . with regard to the clients he had lost."

Miss Helen E. Batherson, who said she was Klein's "girl Friday" in Washington from 1953 to 1965, told the six-man committee that Klein "is a very persuasive type person who calls repeatedly day and night to pressure someone to do something for him."

She said Klein "asked several senators to try to do the same thing if in fact they were willing . . . any number of senators were friends of Klein and had been for a number of years."

Miss Batherson said Dodd stayed at Klein's suite in New York City's Essex House about once every two months and never paid for the favor because Klein rented the suite on a yearly basis.

Two former Dodd employees, O'Hare and Mrs. Marjorie Carpenter, said Dodd used the suite on an average of once month.

Dodd Talks of Dolly

Dodd has filed a \$2 million libel suit against the columnists.

Dodd told newsmen yesterday that the only thing Klein gave him in return for the West Ger-

man trip was a 9-by-12-inch tablecloth doily, "worth about \$2."

O'Hare, who said he was in charge of paying Dodd's personal bills, told the committee three large Persian rugs appeared in Dodd's Georgetown home in late 1964, and he had no idea of how they were purchased.

Pearson and Anderson have charged that Klein bought Dodd an expensive Persian rug as a 1964 Christmas present.

Mrs. Carpenter said a member of Klein's Washington staff delivered to Dodd's office a lengthy memo listing high-ranking West German officials and suggesting remarks Dodd might make to them to enhance Klein's reputation.

Marital Questions

Before Mrs. Carpenter was excused as a witness, Sonnett questioned her about her marital status and her relationship with James P. Boyd Jr., former administrative assistant to Dodd.

After bringing out that Mrs. Carpenter was divorced in 1963, Sonnett asked her: "Are you and Mr. Boyd planning to marry?"

"What was the question?" asked Stennis.

After Sonnett repeated it, Stennis said "I think that is a rather personal question." Mrs. Carpenter did not answer it.

But earlier Sonnett had asked her if, since 1963, she had had "a social relationship with Mr. Boyd."

"Yes, sir," she murmured.

"And he is important to you?"

"Yes, sir," she said.

Sonnett told newsmen that Boyd, father of four children, obtained a divorce in April of this year.

The lawyer asked Mrs. Carpenter if it was correct that she was discharged by Dodd on Dec. 7, 1964.

"Yes, sir."

"And you were angry because of being discharged?"

"Yes, I think anybody would be who was discharged and given no reason."

At one point today, Sonnett asked O'Hare: "Was there any conversation among the office staff about the relationship between Boyd and Mrs. Carpenter?"

O'Hare replied: "On occasion I have heard comments from both members of the senator's staff and the senator himself." He did not elaborate.

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